

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105216
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01
AID-05 /078 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GWSCOTT:PS
APPROVED BY AF:TWSEELYE
AF/E:RSPOST

-----091836Z 099686 /43

O R 091820Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

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ABIDJAN FOR COM LOUGHRAN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TA : SO, PINS, US, FT

SUBJECT:SOMALI SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST GROUP
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PAGE 02 STATE 105216

1. NEW YORK TIMES AND WASHINGTON POST BOTH PRINT ARTICLES
MAY 9 IN WHICH IT IS REPORTED THAT STATE DEPARTMENT NAMES
FOUR COUNTRIES (LIBYA, IRAQ, SOUTH YEMEN AND SOMALIA) AS
ACTIVELY SUPPORTING TERRORIST GROUPS. ARTICLES ARE SOURCED
TO A LETTER AND OTHER MATERIALS PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT
TO SENATOR JACOB JAVITS.

2. INFORMATION PROVIDED TO SENATOR JAVITS ON SOMALIA WAS IN RESPONSE TO HIS REQUEST CITING THAT COUNTRY AND ASKING FOR UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION CONCERNING ITS SUPPORT OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. OUR REPORT TO HIM FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THERE HAVE BEEN TWO MAJOR TERRORIST INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE SOMALI COAST (FLCS), A SOMALI GOVERNMENT-SUPPORTED GROUP, IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. IN MARCH, 1975, THREE MEMBERS OF THE FLCS SEIZED THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO MOGADISCIO, AND ONLY FREED HIM FIVE DAYS LATER IN EXCHANGE FOR MONEY AND TWO FLCS MEMBERS WHO WERE PRISONERS IN FRANCE. THE EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN ADEN AT THE PUBLIC REQUEST OF BOTH FRANCE AND SOMALIA.

IN FEBRUARY, 1976, A GROUP OF FLCS COMMANDOS SEIZED A SCHOOL BUS CONTAINING 31 FRENCH CHILDREN IN DJIBOUTI AND ATTEMPTED TO DRIVE IT ACROSS THE BORDER INTO SOMALIA. THE BUS WAS HALTED BEFORE IT REACHED THE BORDER. FRENCH SHARPSHOOTERS EVENTUALLY KILLED SIX OF THE COMMANDOS AND RE-TOOK THE BUS. TWO OF THE CHILDREN WERE KILLED.

THERE IS OPEN COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND THE FLCS, A COOPERATION WHICH THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT JUSTIFIES ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE FLCS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AS A LEGITIMATE LIBERATION MOVEMENT. WHILE IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE FLCS IS DEPENDENT ON SOMALI GOVERNMENT SUPPORT, THERE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 105216

IS NO EVIDENCE WHICH ESTABLISHES THAT THE TWO INCIDENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE WERE PRECIPITATED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT.

IN A DECEMBER, 1976 MEETING IN SOMALIA, THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE FLCS EXPELLED FIVE OF ITS TOP LEADERS. WHILE THE FLCS LEADERSHIP DID NOT USE THE OCCASION TO RENOUNCE TERRORISM AS POLICY, SOME OF THE REASONS CITED FOR THE EXPULSIONS WERE THE INFILTRATING OF ARMED GANGS INTO DJIBOUTI WITHOUT CONSULTING THE FLCS POLICY-MAKING BODY, CONSPIRACY TO ASSASSINATE OTHER MEMBERS, KIDNAPPING, KILLING ROBBERING, AND MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS. THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION APPEARS TO BE IN ACCORD WITH THE APPARENT SOMALI GOVERNMENT DECISION TO COOPERATE PEACEFULLY WITH THE FRENCH IN BRINGING ABOUT DJIBOUTI'S INDEPENDENCE. INDEPENDENCE IS EXPECTED IN JUNE OF THIS YEAR. END QUOTE

3. PRESS GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

Q: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS THE DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED SEN. JAVITS THAT SOMALIA SUPPORTS TERRORIST GROUPS. WHAT SORT OF TERRORIST GROUPS?

A: IN RESPONSE TO SEN. JAVITS' INQUIRY, THE DEPARTMENT NOTED THE COOPERATION WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT AND THE FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE SOMALI COAST (FLCS), MEMBERS OF WHICH SEIZED THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TO MOGADISCIO IN 1975 AND A SCHOOL BUS CARRYING FRENCH SCHOOL CHILDREN IN 1976. THE FLCS IS A LIBERATION MOVEMENT RECOGNIZED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY WHICH PARTICIPATED IN THE PEACEFUL MAY 8 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ELECTIONS AND REFERENDUM ON INDEPENDENCE AS PART OF A JOINT ELECTORAL SLATE WITH OTHER MAJOR PARTIES. IN ITS LETTER TO SEN. JAVITS THE DEPARTMENT NOTED THAT WHILE IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT THE FLCS IS DEPENDENT ON SOMALI GOVERNMENT SUPPORT, WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THESE TWO INCIDENTS WERE PRECIPITATED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT. WE SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT THESE TWO INCIDENTS WERE RESOLVED WITH THE HELP OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT. FURTHER, IN DECEMBER 1976 IN A MEETING IN SOMALIA THE FLCS EXPELLED FIVE OF ITS TOP LEADERS, CITING AS JUSTIFICATION SUCH ACTIONS AS KIDNAPPING, AND ROBBERY. WE HAVE NO REPORTS OF ANY TERRORIST INCIDENT INVOLVING FLCS SINCE THAT TIME. END QUOTE

4. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED IN THE BRIEFING OF MAY 9.

5. A COPY OF THE REPORT TRANSMITTED IN PARAGRAPH 2 HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE SOMALI AMBASSADOR.

CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 105216 TOSEC 040233
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/E:GWSCOTT:PS

APPROVED BY: AF/E:RSPOST

S/S-O:SESTEINER

-----130033Z 081029 /15

P 122356Z AMY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 105216 TOSEC 040233

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION ABIDJAN FROM STATE MAY 10:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 105216

FOR COM LOUGHRAN

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION MOGADISCIO, LONDON, PARIS, TEL AVIV,
BONN, ROME, DJIBOUTI, ADDIS ABABA, NAIROBI, JIDDA, SANA,
KHARTOUM, CAIRO FROM STATE MAY 09:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 105216

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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PAGE 03 STATE 105216 TOSEC 040233

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/E:GWSCOTT:PS

APPROVED BY: AF/E:RSPOST

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P 100325Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INSTRUCTIONS, TERRORISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE105216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GWSCOTT:PS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770162-1198
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770578/aaaacpgf.tel
Line Count: 472
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6c71c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2594317
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI SUPPORT FOR TERRORIST GROUP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TAGS: SOPN, SO, LY, SY, IZ, FLCS, (JAVITS, JACOB)
To: MOGADISCIO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6c71c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009